

The Socorro Chieftain.

VOL. 24

SOCORRO, NEW MEXICO, SATURDAY, JULY 21, 1906

NO. 26

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Hold Their Regular Quarterly and Attend to Business of Unusual Importance.

LARGE NUMBER OF BILLS PAID

Attention Also Given to the Matter of Repeating or Sustaining Tax Levies Made.

At a recent meeting of the board of county commissioners beginning July 2, there were present Chairman Eduardo Jaramillo, Commissioner Alfredo Armijo, Clerk and Interpreter B. A. Pino, and Sheriff Leandro Baca.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The resignation of Jose de la Cruz Lopez as road supervisor of precinct No. 27 was accepted.

John W. Richardson was appointed justice of the peace of precinct No. 45.

Andrew Jackson was appointed justice of the peace and James O. Nabours constable of precinct No. 6.

Commissioner Abran Contreras was present at the afternoon session of the board.

As a board of equalization, the board made the following abatements in assessed valuations:

Harold C. Wilson and Wm. French, \$2,700.

F. G. Bartlett, real estate, \$500; sheep, \$675.

The assessment made on the sheep of J. H. Nations by the assessor was sustained.

The raises made by the assessor on the property of Jose Felipe Castillo, Estanislao Padilla, Manuel Padilla, were sustained; also the raise made on the property of Francisco Castillo y Pino.

A resolution was passed requesting Attorney Elfego Baca to vacate the judge's chambers and the court stenographer's rooms within three days, and the sheriff was ordered to take possession of the rooms at the expiration of that time.

Abatements in assessed valuations were made as follows:

Red River Cattle Co., cattle, \$4,500.00.

Constancio Miera, real estate, \$400.00.

Esquipula Pino, head of family, \$200.00.

A. E. Sipe, real estate and horses, \$400.00.

Loewenstein Bros., mdse., \$1,500.00.

Ramon Torres, cattle, \$225.00.

Ramon Torres, mdse., \$545.00.

Adolfo Torres, personal property, \$75.00.

Socorro Company, real estate, \$11,617.00.

Francisco Padilla, cattle, \$420.00.

The assessor's valuation on the property of Jas. E. Cree was sustained.

A communication was received from Attorney Elfego Baca saying that he declined to vacate the rooms occupied by him in the court house, on the ground that he occupied the rooms by order of the district judge and the district attorney, and that he would vacate willingly by order of either of those officials, etc.

The assessment made by the assessor against the Pullman Car Co. by mistake was cancelled.

The taxes of Jose Torres y Garcia of precinct No. 1 for 1899 and 1900, \$11.46, were totally abated.

The butchers bonds of S. G. Hanna, Wm. Gardiner, H. G. May & G. O. Biavasci, A. H. Hilton Mercantile Co., were approved.

The bond of E. J. Baca, road supervisor of precinct No. 32, and that of Julian Sanchez, constable of precinct No. 7, were approved.

The butchers' bonds of Wm. Tate and Chas. Clark were rejected.

Reports of justices of the peace for the quarter ending June 30 were approved as follows:

Felipe E. Moreno of precinct No. 7, Joseph McQuillan 13, Ignacio Santillana 2, Marcos Jaramillo 9, Jesus Contreras 3, Pablo Gomez 14, Amos E. Green 1, John Dwyer 35, Matias M. Torres 12.

Rafael Valenzuela was appointed road supervisor of precinct No. 27 vice Jose de la Cruz Lopez, resigned.

The clerk was instructed to correspond with District Judge Frank W. Parker, and the district attorney, Hon. H. A. Wolford, to ascertain if Attorney Elfego Baca was occupying rooms in the court house by order of either of them.

The report of Jose E. Torres, county collector and treasurer, for the quarter ending June 30 was approved.

Interest coupons to the amount of \$3,885.00 were turned in by the collector and treasurer, also a large number of county warrants.

The report of Sheriff Leandro Baca on jail and prisoners for the quarter ending June 30 was approved; also his report on liquor and gaming licenses.

Bills were allowed and ordered paid as follows:

Leandro Baca, services as sheriff, \$521.37

Same, feeding prisoners, 381.50

Same, Jailer, 150.00

Tomas Baca, jail guard, 120.00

Henry Dreyfus, salary, 100.00

Alfredo Armijo, salary and mileage, 110.80

Eduardo Jaramillo, same, 104.30

Abraon Contreras, same, 108.50

B. A. Pino, salary and stamps, 262.00

Quirino Baca, salary, 75.00

Elfego Baca, 62.50

H. A. Wolford, 62.50

Jose A. Torres Co., stationery, 2.25

A. B. Baca, stamps, 7.75

Jose E. Torres, same, 61.12

A. A. Sedillo, fees as special district attorney, 200.00

Eduardo Jaramillo, mdse, 64.20

City of Socorro, water rent, 15.00

Manual Gallegos y Garcia, 23.75

Geo. E. Cook, coal, 67.92

Socorro Mercantile Co., mdse., 80.35

Henry Chambon, same, 19.75

Socorro Telephone Co., phones, 37.75

Midland Chemical Co., 13.00

Socorro Drug and Supply Co., stationery, 11.79

New Mexican Printing Co., same, 50.00

Socorro County Publishing Co., stationery and publishing proceedings, 67.20

Dr. C. G. Duncan, services, 38.00

Amos E. Green, j. p. fees, 19.50

Misais Baca, constable fees, 4.88

El Defensor del Pueblo, subscription, 2.00

Matias M. Torres, j. p. fees, 5.70

Crescencio Martinez, constable fees, 75

Julian Sanchez, same, 5.88

David Baca, j. p. fees, 6.00

Tomas Hernandez, coronator services, 7.00

John Dwyer, j. p. fees, 6.00

Plajires Gonzales, burying pauper, 3.00

Juan Gonzales y Trujillo, j. p. fees, 2.00

Francisco B. Nunez, constable fees, 1.57

Leopoldo Madrid, j. p.

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E. M. FINK, THE DREAMER

Gives El Paso Herald Remarkable Collection of Picturesque False Statements.

Baron Munchausen had better revisit the scenes of earth and look to his laurels. One E. M. Fink, whoever that may be, threatens to rival him in vivid and picturesque fiction. On Monday Socorro was honored with the presence of Fink. Fink went to El Paso and gave the Herald of that city an interview from which a few gems are here reproduced with comment: The Socorro "court house is a mass of ruins." Absolutely and totally false. "While I was in Socorro, eating at the Winkler hotel, a shock knocked the wall of the dining room out." Absolutely false again. "When I tried to walk it was just like the ground rising up to meet my feet." Probably true. Other visitors in Socorro have been seen to walk under the same hallucination, but they have usually found accommodations at the calaboose. "Two-thirds of the houses in town are cracked and tumbling down." Evidently not half so badly cracked as Fink, and certainly a mighty sight steeper on their underpinning. Great is Mr. Fink.

THE EARTHQUAKES

Careful Resume of Shakes and Effects at Socorro to Date

NO SERIOUS DAMAGE BEEN DONE

Rumors of Ruin and Desolation in the City from Earthquake and Flood Are Absolutely Without Foundation.—Probably Cause of Disturbance

The Chieftain has striven to give the plain, unadorned facts of the remarkable earthquake record made at Socorro during the last three weeks. This has been done with the hope of partly, at least, refuting the wild rumors of destruction set afloat by reckless or designing person. The facts of the case are not altogether pleasant, but any effort to suppress or to misrepresent them would be sure to result in more harm than good.

THE FACTS OF THE CASE.

The present seismic disturbance at Socorro began at a little after three o'clock on Monday morning, July 2, with a rumbling and a shaking that were the most remarkable felt in the city for many years. No damage was done, however, further than the throwing down of a little loose plaster here and there. The next severe shock came at ten minutes past five on Thursday morning, July 12. This shock was much more severe than that of ten days before. Many walls were cracked, about a dozen chimneys toppled over, and shelf goods, book cases, dishes, and bric-a-brac suffered considerable damage. The next day, it is to be hoped, the last severe shock came at about noon last Monday. The effects were about the same as before. Buildings were shaken violently and a good many chimneys were thrown down, notably three on the court house and two on the high school building. As a result of these three severe disturbances there are but few among the older buildings in the city that do not show some marks of the rough usage they have received; but well built modern houses bear hardly a mark to commemorate the disturbance. It would doubtless be a liberal estimate to say that the total property damage done in the city amounts to \$2,500. Not a single person has been injured.

The fact that there have been frequent and occasionally violent shocks for almost three weeks has of course made a large number of Socorro's inhabitants somewhat nervous and has thoroughly scared a few. About fifty people have left the city, expecting to return as soon as the disturbance has subsided. Almost the entire population has taken the wise precaution of living out of doors for the last ten days, and tents are visible in all directions. Many people are cooking, eating, and sleeping in the open air without the protection of even a tent, but this is no great hardship, since the weather has, with the exception of one or two light showers, been uniformly pleasant.

Magdalena Sheepman.

"A few sales of lambs for feeding next winter have been bargained for," said M. J. Russell of Magdalena, N. M., yesterday, to a newspaper reporter at Kansas City. "Up to the present time fewer lambs have been bought for fall delivery than had been sold at this time last year, but so far there seems to be no change in prices. The sheep owners are holding out for about the same prices as a year ago, and claim that they will get their prices. They argue that while there was a big lamb crop, fewer sheep were held over last year, and, therefore, the supply is no greater. Then they are well provided with range feed, and that is a very important factor in the matter. If there was a scarcity of feed they would be forced upon the market and

The above are the salient facts of Socorro's remarkable earthquake experience. All wild rumors to the effect that the walls of buildings have tumbled down, that the court house is a mass of ruins, that the inhabitants of the city are crazed with fear, that a water spout has added its destructive effects to those of the earthquakes, etc., etc.,—all this is pure, unadulterated fiction. Business is going on just as usual, except that most business houses remain closed during the evening. The inhabitants of the city have become so accustomed to the light shocks that it takes a pretty severe one to call forth other comment than a quiet "Hello! there's another."

THE PROBABLE CAUSE.

By a slow process of cooling, a rigid envelope was formed about the once molten earth. As the molten mass continued to cool and contract, wrinkles were formed in its envelope. The great Rocky mountain system is one of those wrinkles, and the same cause that originated that system is still raising it to a greater height, or changing its configuration otherwise. Great areas of the earth's envelope occasionally move under the tremendous pressure produced by the changing conditions implied and earthquakes are the result. Three months ago California suddenly moved eight feet north, or a portion of the bed of the Pacific ocean moved eight feet south, nobody yet knows which. As a result, a "fault" now extends three hundred and fifty miles along the California coast and probably other hundreds of miles under the sea. Is it possible that the tremendous tension relieved by that movement has made possible a similar relief of a lesser tension by a lesser movement along a line extending from Raton through Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Socorro, El Paso and on into Mexico over a total distance of about five hundred miles? Such is the direction and extent of the seismic disturbances now being experienced in Socorro. The last previous earthquake of marked severity felt in California occurred in 1868. The oldest inhabitant of Socorro still tells of the earthquake of that selfsame year when the ground rocked so violently that he could not stand. Have these coincident and parallel movements in California and New Mexico any connection? It is not unreasonable to presume that they have.

But let the timid be at ease—volcanic eruptions are produced by causes entirely different from the above.

would be compelled to take lower prices. But it is admitted that the buyers this year will be the conservatives, and fewer speculators."—Albuquerque Citizen.

W. H. Liles of this city was in San Antonio at the time of Monday's severe earthquake. Mr. Liles says that he was on the main street of the town and that he saw the tops of the front walls of some of the business blocks sway at least eighteen inches out of plumb. He expected one of them to fall upon him, but he was so spellbound that he could not have run away if he had known it was coming.

Sunday school and preaching services tomorrow at Presbyterian church at usual hours, under canvass in front of the church building. "Come let us worship the Lord our God."

ATTORNEY ELFEGO BACA

Tells the Albuquerque Journal About the Recent Earthquakes at Socorro

The Albuquerque Morning Journal credits the following interview to Attorney Elfego Baca of this city:

Among the refugees from Socorro who arrived in Albuquerque last night was Elfego Baca, former district attorney, whom the county commissioners recently tried to oust from offices in the Socorro court house. Mr. Baca brought his family here yesterday and says that if, after returning to Socorro, he finds things still wobbling he will move bag and baggage to this city or El Paso, until the disturbance subsides.

Mr. Baca says that by a strange coincidence the office he has been occupying in the court house is undamaged, and that he has received no further objections from the commissioners since the plaster began to fall and the walls of the building to crack.

"When I left Socorro," said Mr. Baca last night, "The hardest rain for fifty years was falling and everyone was drenched, as all are living in thin tents or in the open air and do not dare to go into their homes. There is a good deal of distress among the people as the result of the rain which was a regular cloudburst."

Mr. Baca says the rumbling underground is almost continuous. "The strangest part of the earthquake is the localization of it," said he. "Twenty-eight miles northwest very few people felt any shaking at all. At Lemat, just north, some of the severest shocks have hardly been felt. The movement seems to me to come from the Ladrone mountains rather than the Magdalena, and to extend south-west across the Malpais towards Alamogordo. The only place where the shocks have been severe is for a distance of forty miles up and down the valley. From San Marcial to Socorro is only twenty miles and San Antonio is midway between. Right along this twenty mile stretch is where the trouble is."

Mr. Baca says that several Socorro people claim to have seen dust or smoke fly from the Ladrone mountains at the time of the shocks and corroborates the story that hot springs could be accounted for by the fact that this slipping is known to generate heat, sometimes so intense as to fuse the solid rock.

Mr. Baca says that half of the people of Socorro are leaving for this city, Santa Fe or El Paso, and that they will not return till the shaking has ceased. Almost all the houses are uninhabitable, and are being made more so by the constantly recurring shocks.

[Mr. Baca returned to Socorro this morning and says that some of the statements in the above interview vary greatly from what he really said.—Editor.]

\$100 Reward, \$100.

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh—being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials.

Address F. J. CHEREY & Co., Toledo, O.

Sold by all Druggists, 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Contractors are making rapid progress on the construction of C. T. Brown's new residence in the eastern part of the city. The residence will be one of the most commodious and comfortable in Socorro.

\$5,000 INDEBTEDNESS

For First Time in Memory of Oldest Inhabitant Part of Socorro County Debt

IS PAID BY THE COMMISSIONERS

This Act Verifies the Chieftain's Early Prediction Concerning Conduct of Present Board.

Tally another for a Republican administration of the affairs of Socorro county. For the first time in many years, if not the first time ever, a direct payment has been made on the county's debt as indicated in the following resolution passed by the board of county commissioners at their last meeting.

RESOLUTION.

Whereas, There is now on hand in the county treasury of Socorro county, New Mexico, an excess of moneys for the payment of interest of the bonded indebtedness of 1897, 1899 and 1901 of said county and such excess is now on hand, after allowing for the interest falling due for the current year, and the same exceeds the sum of five thousand dollars; and

Whereas, There is no method by which the said excess of interest moneys so accumulated can be returned to the tax payers of this county; and

Whereas, The same cannot be diverted to any other fund for any other purpose; and

Whereas, The same is not drawing interest and the purposes for which the same was collected was for the payment of interest upon bonds, as above recited; and

Whereas, In the opinion of the commissioners, bonds might be paid off to the amount of the said five thousand dollars and the interest thereon cease, and thereby make a saving to the tax payers of the county; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the treasurer of this county be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to ascertain if any of the bonds now outstanding of the county of Socorro can be purchased at par, and if any such bonds can be so purchased, he is hereby authorized and directed to select five thousand dollars of such bonds, or so much thereof as he may be able, and pay for such bonds up to the sum of five thousand dollars out of the excess and accumulated interest funds hereinbefore referred to; provided, that any bonds so purchased by the said treasurer, as herein provided, be cancelled and delivered to this board at its next regular meeting to be destroyed in the manner required by law.

La Joya Jottings.

The Puerco river is carrying quite a volume of water these days, but no damage has been done yet.

We felt quite a shaking up at Ranchos from mother earth on last Monday. Wonder if these are sympathetic shocks from dear Socorro.

Mrs. Julian J. Trujillo joined her husband here on last Sunday. She was thoroughly scared with the recent Socorro seismic disturbances.

According to last advices from the press, jointure with New Mexicans is a foregone conclusion. Our precinct will be found on the safe side.

1,800 to 2,000 fanegas is a very conservative estimate of the wheat that will be raised in La Joya and immediate neighborhood the present season.

Father Moog will celebrate mass at Ranchos next Sunday, and both the newly born babies of Mr. E. A. Contreras and H. Gonzales will receive the sacrament of baptism.

Don Paulin Carrillo from Abo came in this week with a load of lumber for the new Ranchos Catholic church. He reports little rain, but several destructive hailstorms, out Mayzano way.

Sergeant R. W. Lewis of the mounted police force, arrived in the city Monday from an extended visit on duty in the Mogollon mountains.